

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A ~~digital media distributor (DMD)~~ with tunable control of digital media data transmission, the DMD comprising:

a distribution network;

a central site system, the central site system utilizing a plurality of designated control parameters, including uplink parameters, scheduler parameters, and storage parameters, for controlling distribution of digital media data; and

a plurality of remote site servers for receiving digital media data transmissions from the central site server via the distribution network according to the designated control parameters.

2. A system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of uplink parameters relate to transmission limits, value limits, and time window limits.

3. A system of claim 2 wherein the plurality of uplink parameters further comprises one or more of a group comprising uplink broadcast transmissions, an uplink broadcast interval, an uplink request window, an uplink forward, and an uplink look-ahead.

4. A system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of scheduler parameters relate to transmission limits, value limits, time window limits, and retention period limits.

5. A system of claim 4 wherein the plurality of scheduler parameters further comprises one or more of the group comprising an uplink queue retention period, a dead on arrival retention period, a history retention period, a request queue retention period, a scheduler retention period, a stage manager queue retention period, maximum request deletion, an uplink expiration, a missing spot resend period, a non-spot retransmission limit, a non-spot retransmission period, a scheduler retransmission limit, a scheduler retransmission period, a spot unavailable warning, a schedule look-ahead, a stage manager record expiration, a stage manager archive threshold, a stage manager look forward, a stage manager look-ahead, and a transmission lookahead window, a staging lookahead window, an SIB (station in a box) playtime lookahead window, an SIB spot disk high water mark, an SIB spot disk low water mark, a searchable length of transmit queue, a searchable length of the staging queue, a playlist transmission lookahead, a minimum transit time, and an SIB reporting timeout limit.

6. A system of claim 1 wherein the plurality of storage parameters relate to retention period limits and value limits.

7. A system of claim 6 wherein the plurality of storage parameters further comprise one or more of a group comprising a playlist retention period, a purgelist retention period, playlist entries, and purgelist entries.

8. A method for controlling distribution of digital media data by a digital media







SIB (station in a box) playtime lookahead window, an SIB spot disk high water mark, an SIB spot disk low water mark, a searchable length of transmit queue, a searchable length of the staging queue, a playlist transmission lookahead, a minimum transit time, and an SIB reporting timeout limit.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein establishing values for the uplink control parameters further comprises establishing values for uplink broadcast transmissions, an uplink broadcast interval, an uplink request window, an uplink forward, and an uplink look-ahead.

20. The method of claim 17 wherein establishing values for the storage control parameters further comprises establishing values for a playlist retention period, a purgelist retention period, playlist entries, and purgelist entries.